

B-3334 - B-3341  
1044-1000 Light St. (West side)  
Baltimore, Md.  
Private and semi-public access

1840-1875/1920's

The west side of the 1000 block of Light St. has a number of quite interesting and unusual buildings. 1040-1044 Light St. is a typical group of three story, two and three bay wide brick buildings with shed roofs and bracketed cornices which has always served a mixed commercial/residential function and dates from the 1870's. At 1036-1038 Light St. there is the McHenry Theatre, an Art-Deco style brown brick structure built in the 1920's to serve as one of three neighborhood movie houses, the other two of which are now gone. The original interior of the theatre is still intact, with community plans underway to reopen it as a movie theatre, but the old lobby area has been converted into two modern storefronts. At 1024 Light St. Public School #15 survives in its original Tuscan Revival form, two stories high, six bays wide with a low-pitched gable roof running perpendicular to Light St. with deeply projecting eaves supported by thin wooden brackets. The first floor area of the building has been converted into a modern storefront. Across Poultny St., to the north, at 1022 Light St. is a typical three story, three bay wide combination commercial/residential structure with shed roof and bracketed cornice dating from the early 1850's (it originally had a gable roof). At 1016-1020 Light St. there is a group of three story, two bay wide brick houses with gable roofs built in the early 1850's and currently used as both residences and storefronts. To the north, at 1008-1014 Light St., stands the large two and a half story, three bay wide, brick Queen Anne style Salvation Army Building, which was built as a Friends Meeting House in the 1870's. Finally, at 1000-1006 Light St. there is a row of two and a half story, late Federal style brick houses built about 1840 by John S. Gittings and others. All of the houses retain their original exterior form except for 1000 Light St. which has been enlarged and is now three stories in height with a shed roof and bracketed cornice. All of the first floor areas of this group of houses have been converted to modern storefronts.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3336  
MAGI 043336251  
1

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Old Primary School # 15

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1024 Light St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Land Records

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

B-3336

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two story, six bay wide brick building with low-pitched gable roof with deep eaves supported by thin wooden brackets, is a good example of a local modification and simplification of the Tuscan (Italianate) Revival style popular when it was built in 1854 to serve as Primary School #15. The first floor area of the building has recently been converted to a modern shoe store.

The building is two stories in height, about 62' wide, and occupies a lot about 122' deep. The building is located on the south west corner of Light and Poultney Streets, and extends back along Poultney St. six bays. The building is constructed in running bond. The low pitched gable roof runs perpendicular to Light St., with deeply projecting eaves on both front and side facades supported by thin wooden brackets, a characteristic of the Tuscan Revival style. The Light St. facade of the building is divided into three bays of two windows each. The central bay projects slightly and is framed by two full height brick piers. The side bays are marked by two windows set in a recessed area. These windows have splayed brick lintels and stone sills. Each is filled with 4/4 double hung sash. The central bay also has two windows on the second floor level, but these have round arched lintels, with arched, paneled brick hoods. These windows, too, are filled with 4/4 double hung sash, the upper panes cut to fit the curve of the arch. The brick hoods framing the central windows have a kind of brick keystone which extends upwards and connects each hood to a rectangular brick projection which in turn forms the base for three narrow arched windows set in the attic area beneath the peak of the gable roof. These narrow windows are filled with wooden blinds and have simple arched brick hoods.

The first floor level of the facade apparently had the same window arrangement as the second story, but has now been entirely enclosed by the modern facade of the shoe store which occupies these premises. A handsome wood cornice extends across the entire width of the first floor level, consisting of a crown molding set above a row of dentils and a plain frieze area. The original entrance was undoubtedly set within the central bay.

The Poultney St. facade of the building is notable for the cast iron lintels surmounting each of the windows. These are executed in a Classical Revival design with a central shell extending above the rectangular shape of the lintel, flanked by acanthus-type leaf designs. The sills of the windows are stone. The second floor windows are filled with 12/12 double hung sash; the small, square windows of the first floor level are filled with a fixed sash of eight panes. Two full height brick piers divide the side facade into two bays, the easternmost two windows wide, and the westernmost four windows wide.

The first floor facade of the building has recently been converted to a modern storefront, consisting of two separate entrances flanked by three-sided plate glass shop windows set on aluminum bases. A deep aluminum sign area/cornice extends across the entire width of the storefront facade and around the corner along the Poultney St. facade. The first floor area of the building is currently occupied by two stores, a shoe store on the Poultney St. corner and a 7/11 dairy store in the southern half of the building. The storefront windows project out some distance from the main facade.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES      1853-1854

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is quite important to the Federal Hill/South Baltimore area as being the oldest standing public school building in Baltimore, as well as representing the first public school in the area. The school was built in 1854 as the Male and Female Primary School #15, but was renumbered Primary School #17 during the Civil War. The building remained in use as a school until 1910 when it was finally sold for commercial use. First used as a propellor factory, it was later converted to a 5 & 10 store and presently serves as a shoe store.

Architecturally, the building is of great interest as being an example of the Tuscan Revival style, with its deeply projecting, low-pitched gable roof supported by thin wooden brackets.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION****LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles6/79

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

RuxtonMaryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



S.

ST

E. HAMBURG

PATAPSCO

POULTNEY

ST

LIGHT

B-3336

ST

E. CROSS

## NOTICE

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED

DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF  
PROPERTY

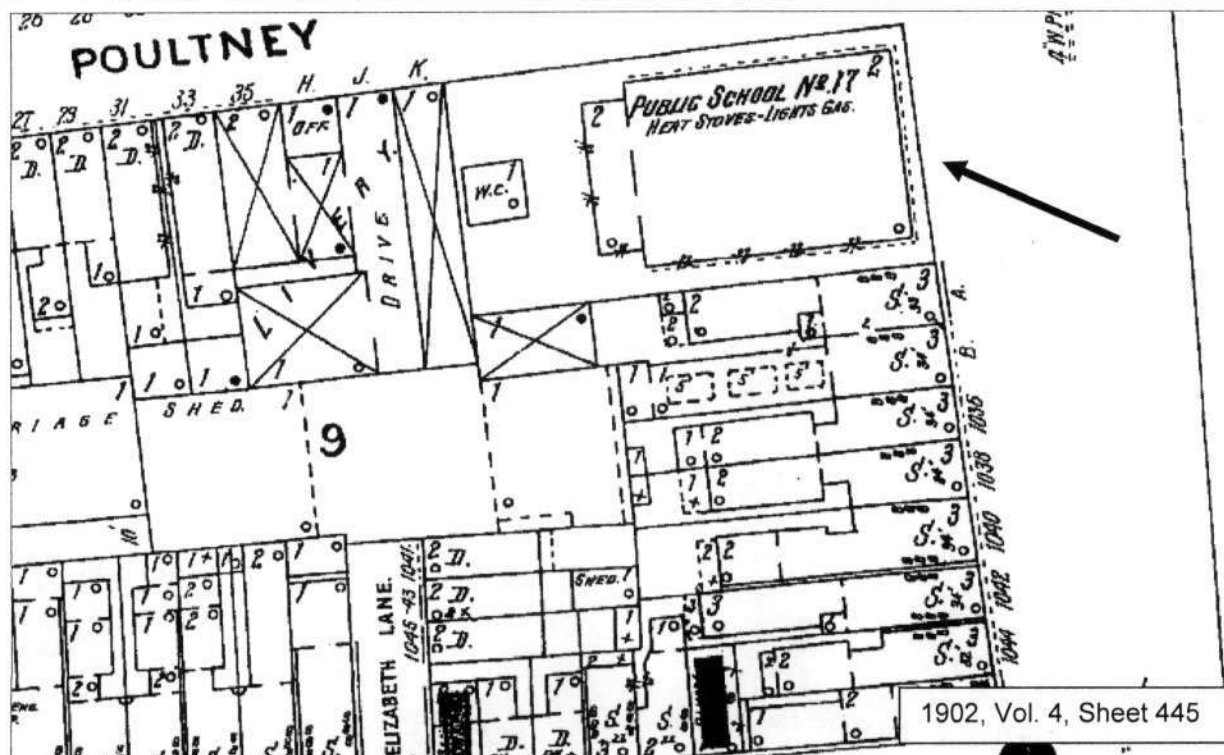
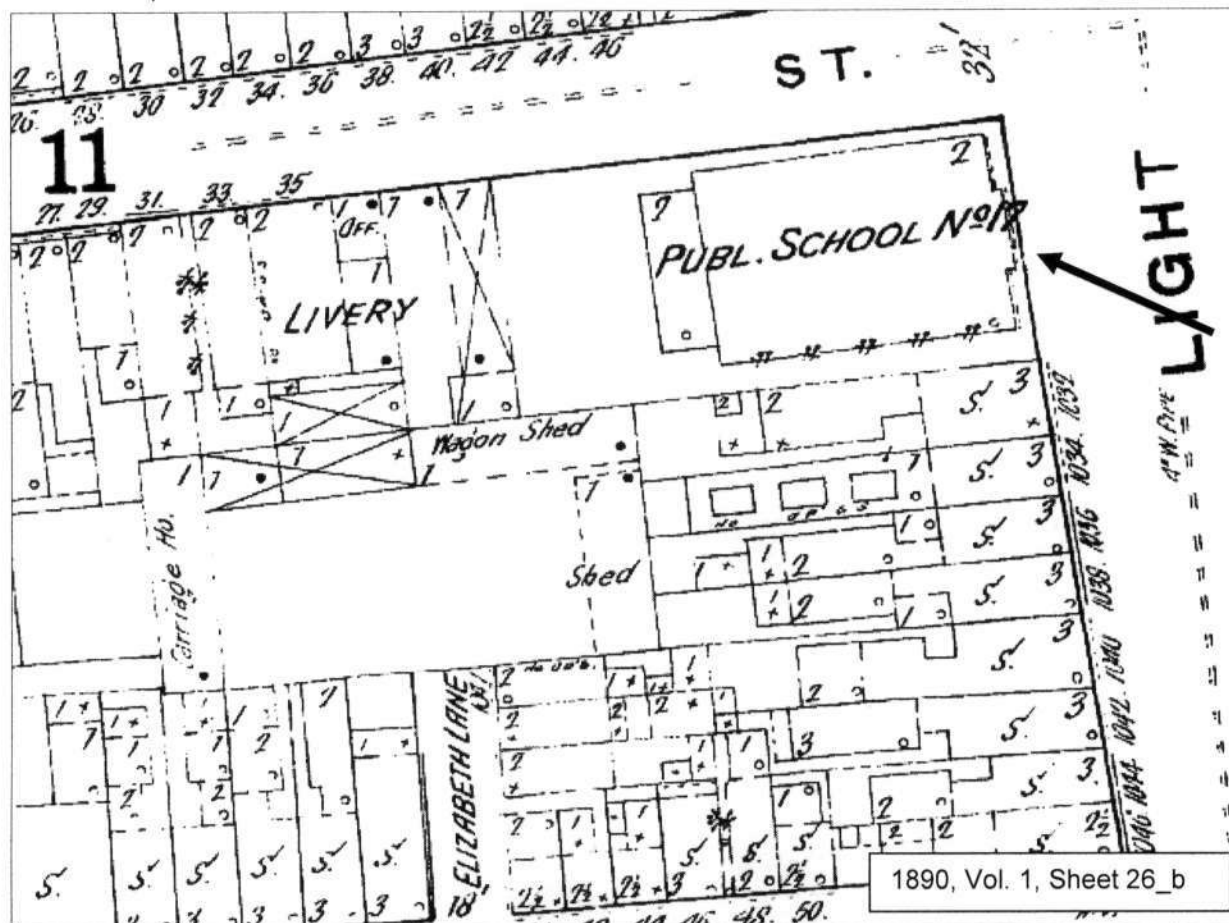
WARRD 2

B-3336

Primary School #15 (Public School No. 17, Chesapeake Furniture Co., 5 & 10 cent store)

1024 Light Street

Sanborn Maps

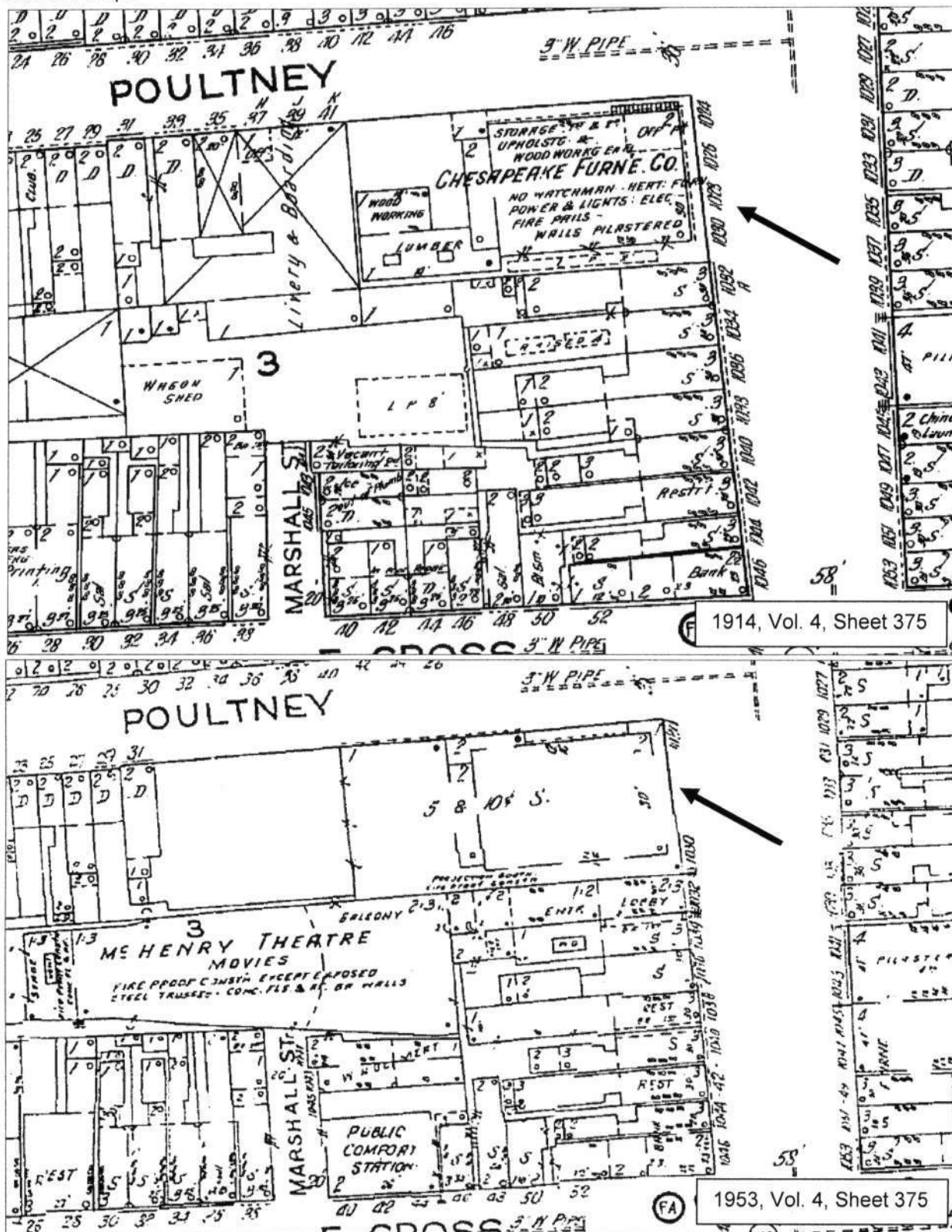


B-3336

Primary School #15 (Public School No. 17, Chesapeake Furniture Co., 5 & 10 cent store)

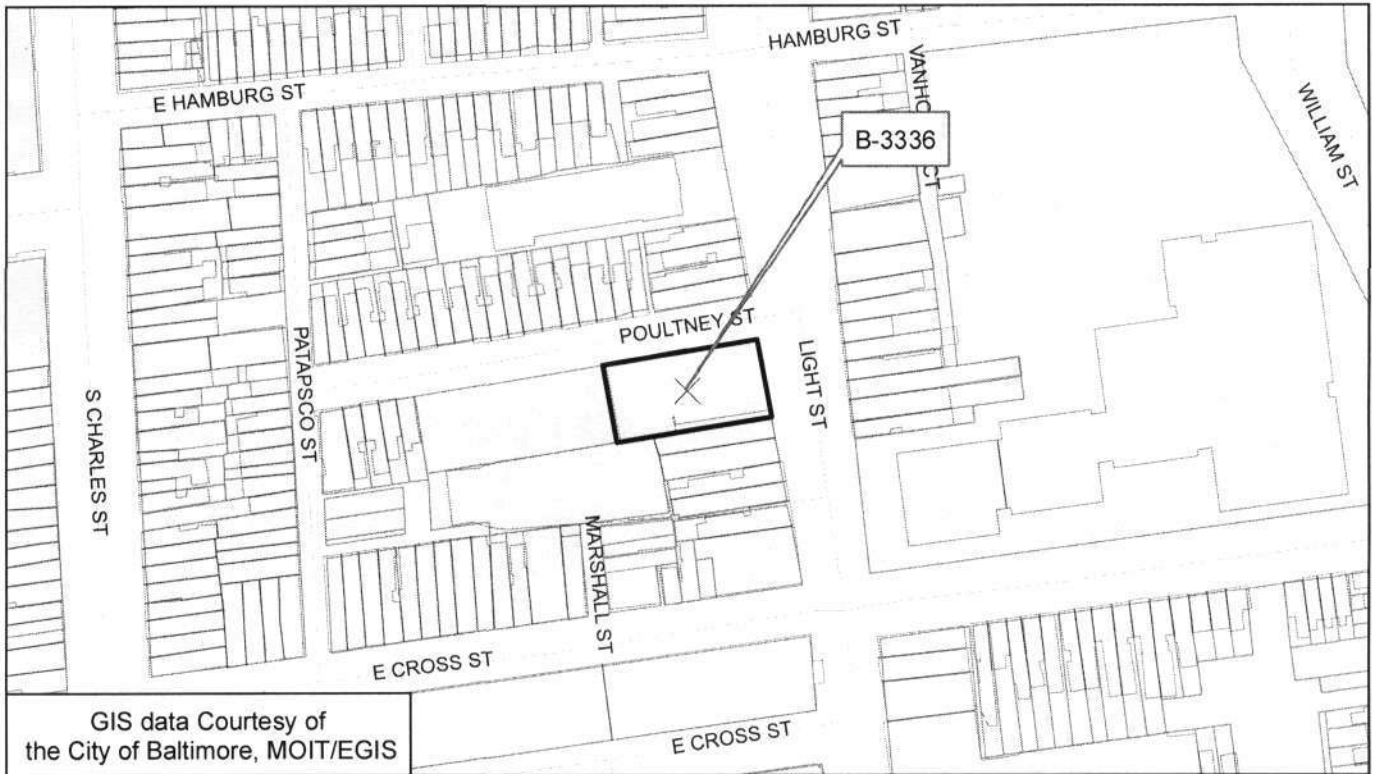
1024 Light Street

Sanborn Maps





B-3336  
Primary School #15  
1024 Light Street  
Block 0935A Lot 001  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3336

1024 Light St.

M.E.H.

5/79

East and north elevations